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75th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIOUE

REPORT ON THE 14th FEBRUARY - 5thANNIVERSARY OF "THE DAY OF FRIEND-SHIP AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF MOZAMBIQUE AND SOUTH AFRICA.

It is important to refer back to our document entitled "Guiding Principle", which broadly explains the importance of this date for our organisation in the regional context; a day in which we would be also be paying tribute and homage to the late comrade President Samora who fell in active combati against apartheid fascist regime.

Preparations for this date were made as early as the beginning of the year, comrades in AMASP did not spare us any moment by asking us who the speaker for the day would be. Indeed in our letters and telexes we have also appealed to National Anniversary Committee to respond to the appeal; only to be responded at the late hour when we had lost hope that any representation will be made. The choice of Secretary of National Anniversary Committee was fitting and timely for it would give the committee first hand information about the region and its activities. We immediately making hasty invitations to solidarity organisations, embassies and mass organisations in order to make for the time lost in the delays in responding to the appeal; so was AMASP informed in the process.

Present at the occassion were comrade Augusto Macamo, member of the Central Committee of Frelimo Party, member of the People's Assembly Permanent Commission and Secretary General of Mozambican Workers Organisation (OTM); comrade José Moiane - Governor of Maputo Province and member of the Central Committee of Frelimo Party also present were leaders of AMASP, members of the Diplomatic Corps, solidarity organisations and Mozambican mass organisations.

Comrade Steve Tshwete was accorded all protocol attention and was introduced to the Mozambican Party and Government officials who were participating in this important occassion. In the meantime the masses were singing inside the well decorated hall, where the photos of the two presidents were hanging flanked by their respective national flags.

Comrade Macamo took the platform where he traced the long history of solidarity and comradeship between the ANC and Frelimo, he paid special attention to the present phase of the struggle of the people of South Africa led by the ANC which has reached unprecedented heights He pledged on behalf of the Party, Government and people full support to the ANC in the struggle against apartheid-coloniakism and thus rid the region of suffering and instability.

Comrade Steve on behalf of the ANC delivered a formidable speech that was interspersed by applauses and more applauses from the beginning to the end. He said " ... (this day) came as an expression of the bonds of Solidarity that the ANC and Frelimo Party and our two peoples have forged in the heat of popular struggle against colonialism, imperialism, racism and armed banditry". The climax was reached when he said " ... as we observe this important day, we are happy to inform you that the struggle which you support is just about to be concluded victoriously", long applaus and a standing ovation.

After the ceremony, all the diplomats present came forward to congratulate comrade Steve Tshwete for the eloquent and brilliant speech delivered for this occassion, they individually and collectively pledged support for the just struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa as led by their legitimate organisation. This short encounter with the members of the diphomatic corp was followed by a brief meeting between comrades Macamo, Moiane and Tshwete behind closed doors; wherein uncondicional support was pledged to the ANC and that the ANC must count on Frelimo for support in their noble cause for a non-racial, free and democratic South Africa. On his part comrade Tshwete assured the comrades that their message will be pass-to the President - comrade O.R.Tambo and the NEC and thanked them for warm reception afforded to him, the warmth of free socialist Mozambique.

There is no doubt that the occassion was a complete success irrespective of the initial organisation problems we have indicated in the fore-going pages of this report; much could have been achieved had this very important aspects been attended to at HQ level.

ADVANCE TO PEOPLE'S POWER ! A LUTA CONTINUA!

Maputo, 15th February 1987.

Thomas Ndhlela.

NB: Find enclosed a) Programme

b) Speech delivered by comrade Steve Thhwete

cc: Office of the Chief Representative - Maputo.